

## PRESS STATEMENT

## SIGNING OF NEW AGREEMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECT FOR GIANT PANDA CONSERVATION

I represented the country at the Exchange Ceremony of the New Agreement on the International Cooperation Project on Giant Panda Conservation between the Government of Malaysia and the People's Republic of China (PRC) with His Excellency Ouyang Yujing, Chinese Ambassador to Malaysia representing the People's Republic of China on 16 April 2025 at the Sri Perdana Complex, Putrajaya.

This joint endeavor symbolises the collaborative project between China and Malaysia. It promotes conservation diplomacy, consistent with Malaysia MADANI's values of global collaboration in sustainability initiatives.

The ceremony was witnessed by the Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim and His Excellency Xi Jinping, President of the PRC, in conjunction with the State Visit of the President of the PRC to Malaysia from 15 to 17 April 2025.

The agreement was signed by the Honourable Dato' Haji Abdul Kadir Abu Hashim, Director General of the Department of Wildlife Conservation and National Parks (PERHILITAN) of Peninsular Malaysia on behalf of the Government of Malaysia and Yan Jian, Secretary-General, China Wildlife Conservation Association (CWCA) on behalf of the PRC.

Malaysia, through a previous agreement signed on 15 June 2012, was granted a conservation cooperation project with a pair of Giant Pandas for 10 years, housed at the Giant Panda Conservation Centre, Zoo Negara.

During this period, Malaysia has shown extraordinary achievements in the ex-situ conservation of Giant Pandas with the breeding and birth of three Giant Panda cubs. All three Giant Panda cubs have been returned to the PRC in compliance with the terms of the agreement.

The signing of a new agreement for the International Cooperation Project on Giant Panda Conservation will enable Malaysia to receive a new pair of Giant Pandas for the next 10 years.

I hope that the Giant Pandas, who are special envoys from the PRC, can further promote understanding and close cooperation between the two countries. Malaysia will continue to be committed to working with China for the conservation and enhancement of scientific cooperation in the preservation of the iconic wildlife species, the Giant Panda.

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